
What's New in WISEdata 2020-21 School Year

Welcome back to the 2020-21 school year! The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) recognizes this will be another school year with challenges, uncertainty, and hurdles to overcome related to how COVID-19 continues to shape the way schools look and operate. While it hasn't been easy for everyone to adjust or quickly mitigate equity gaps that surfaced, we at DPI appreciate all the efforts you have made. We are here to support you however we can, so you can best provide for the staff and students in your schools.

To get everyone started off on the right foot, DPI would like to share some important updates and reminders with you. While the transition to the new school year's version of WISEdata is not nearly as drastic as last year, there are still a number of 2020-21 required and recommended enhancements to note.

Updates and New Features

- The WISEsecure [Mass Delegation Tool](#) releases July 16.
- **High School Graduation Requirements Collection Moving to WISEdata:** The annual High School Graduation Requirements collection will be gathered through the WISEdata Portal starting for the 2020-21 school year rather than the electronic survey. This will reduce district effort to provide DPI the data and streamline the collection process.
 - To learn about how the collection will look in WISEdata and for more information about the High School Graduation Requirements collection and policies, refer to the new data elements' FAQs and the [Graduation Requirements page](#).
- New data elements have been incorporated into WISEdata for the upcoming school year, and existing data elements have been updated. Learn more about them by clicking the linked items.
 - (Updated) [Medium of Instruction](#)
 - (Updated) [Educational Environment](#)
 - (New) [List of Graduation Plan \(formerly HS Graduation Requirements Collection\) data elements](#)
 - (New) [Student Address](#)
- **Career Education Updates:**

- There are no federal waivers for CTE data reporting during the COVID emergency. Districts should submit all 2019-2020 [Career Education data reporting requirements](#) within their best effort and ability.
- For 2020-21, we modified the [CTE Participant data element](#) definition. DPI will continue to calculate this on your behalf.
- For more information on Career Education submission, refer to the [Career Education Help](#) page.
- **Digital Equity Collection to Start (Optional):** During the COVID-19 closures, many school districts transitioned to remote learning, but digital disparities in virtual education became particularly evident. Currently, some districts and schools are sending surveys to better understand the challenges faced by students and parents. DPI has a responsibility to help gather student-level data that brings awareness to equity issues and provides the information needed to allow for accurate research, analysis, and decision-making to ensure all students have access to equitable learning opportunities.
 - In order for DPI and Wisconsin's districts and school leaders to address these digital equity challenges, we are collaborating with technology providers and other partners to introduce several new data elements to gather digital equity information about students' internet and device accessibility.
 - SIS providers are required to make development changes and deploy the new data fields to customers by **August 31**.
 - To learn more about this optional collection, refer to the [digital equity guidance communication](#).
- **Student Address Collection to Start (Optional):** DPI will begin an optional collection of student addresses for the 2020-21 school year. While parents will have the choice to opt out and schools can also choose to opt out, there are significant benefits to gathering student address data, including obtaining immunization record data as specified. If a parent opts out, schools should review their registration procedures to ensure that student's data is not collected.
 - For more information, refer to the [Student Address](#) data element page.
 - Student address aids in better student matching with immunization records for the optional immunization record collection mentioned below. It's highly recommended to send Student Address.
- **Immunization Records Collection to Start (Optional):** In an effort to reduce the burden of collecting every student's immunization records, DPI has partnered with the Department of Health Services to share immunization data. Schools/districts can opt in to obtain student immunization records once their SIS has integrated the new collection.
 - Contact your SIS vendor for more information on timing and details.
 - Once your vendor is integrated, District Administrators will need to opt in to the Immunization Integration in the WISEadmin Portal.
- **Xello / SIS Integration (Optional):** This integration allows Xello to sync students' courses as well as course history, which will enable LEAs to use the Course Planner

feature for students to create their 4-year plans. This integration will be an LEA opt-in solution that allows their primary SIS vendor to transmit course transcript data to WISEdata API, so Xello can use it to keep their course planner data current.

Thank you for working tirelessly to not only complete your WISEdata work but also to make sure your schools' staff and student needs are met, especially during these trying times. We are always here to assist and support you. Review the [WISEdata Events Calendar](#) for opportunities to join us for our weekly user group calls and training sessions. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns by [submitting a WISEsupport help ticket](#). We look forward to a fantastic school year!